

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 54  
By DeBerry J

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Reverend Phillip Bell on his receipt of the J. A. McDaniel Award for outstanding church and community service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable community leaders who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Phillip Bell is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors, and his outstanding church and community service efforts were recently recognized by the Memphis Area Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, as they presented him with the J. A. McDaniel Award; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career as a Presbyterian clergyman, Rev. Phillip Bell has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, a United States Army veteran and a graduate of the Detroit Institute of Technology, Rev. Bell received his Master of Divinity degree from Pittsburgh Seminary and his Master of Theology degree from Duquesne University; and

WHEREAS, an experienced pastor, Rev. Phillip Bell has previously served as the Senior Pastor of Blackadore Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and as a Supply Pastor at Parkway Gardens Church, Bethel Presbyterian Church, Greenleaf Church, Grace Church and St. Andrews Church; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Bell's positive influence extends well beyond the local church, as he has been active on numerous boards and committees within the Presbytery and the Synod; and

WHEREAS, beloved by the children of his community, Rev. Phillip Bell is a creative and innovative visionary concerned with developing valuable community service programs for the underprivileged; he is a strong advocate for the Tutorial Program, has served as a counselor for the National Black Youth Leadership conference, and developed the Community Mental Olympics Program; and

WHEREAS, a respected member of his community and his profession, Rev. Phillip Bell is a recipient of many awards, including the prestigious CBE Award; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Bell's outstanding success as a pastor is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Phillip Bell is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Rev. Bell is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his two children and two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Phillip Bell is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we congratulate the Reverend Phillip Bell upon being awarded the 2003 J. A. McDaniel Award and extend to him our earnest wishes for his continued success in every endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.